

Special EU Programmes Body

# Project Case Study

Programme:  
**PEACE III**

Theme:  
**Acknowledging & Dealing  
with the Past**

Funding:  
£455,602

Lead Partner:  
**North West Play Resource  
Centre**

Website:  
[www.theatreofwitness.org](http://www.theatreofwitness.org)

Project contact: Emma  
Stuart  
[emmastuart@derryplayhouse.co.uk](mailto:emmastuart@derryplayhouse.co.uk)

Geographical area:  
Northern Ireland / Border  
Region of Ireland

## Theatre of Witness

Theatre of Witness is a form of performance developed by founder and artistic director Teya Sepinuck in which the true life stories of those who have been marginalized by society are performed by the storytellers themselves as a way for audiences to bear witness to significant social issues.

These theatre productions are scripted from individual and group interviews as well as a variety of creative process techniques, and consist of spoken word, music, movement, imagery and video projection.

They are created with the performers who themselves, have directly experienced the issues being explored.

Under the PEACE III Programme these performances focus on the experiences of people who have been directly affected by the conflict.

All of the different community viewpoints are included within the performances from both the victims and perpetrators of violence; to prison staff and security forces as well as the family members of those caught up in the conflict. Audiences are invited to bear witness to these performances and engage in group facilitated discussion about the issues they raise.

### Key Project Outputs:

- **Create and tour at least two new Theatre of Witness productions throughout Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland.**
- **Deliver a one year mentoring programme with local theatre facilitators.**
- **Create and distribute film and web material on a local, national and international basis.**
- **Co-ordinate a series of workshops, discussion groups and training on the Theatre of Witness methodology across NI and the Border Region of Ireland.**



Teya Sepinuck, Director of the Theatre of Witness project speaking in Brussels.